MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Nedumangad*): Will the Government be prepared to ask the Excise Commissioner to investigate into the cuase for the decrease?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government will look into the papers and see if an enquiry is needed, and, if so, ask the Excise Commissioner to make an enquiry.

Inspection Work of the Conservator of Forests.

279. MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Nedumangad*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Conservator of Forests inspected the records of the Divisional Forest Offices during 1098;

(*b*) whether any mistake or irregularity had been brought to light in the course of such inspection and any officer punished in consequence thereof;

(*c*) whether he visited the interior forests in 1098, and if so, the places and the number of days spent in each place; and

(*d*) the maximum distance from a motorable road which he has travelled and the name of the places inspected?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the notes of inspection drawn up by the Conservator while inspecting the interior forests in any three Forest Divisions?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) (*a*) The Conservator of Forests inspected three Divisional Forest Offices during 1098.

(*b*) It is reported that no serious mistake or irregularity was noticed during the inspections, that minor mistakes were noticed and that the usual steps were taken to rectify them.

(*c*) A statement * showing the names of places visited and the number of days spent in each place is laid on the table.

(*d*) Thirty-six miles. Cardamom Hills.

(2) The answer is in the negative.

Issue of a Proclamation re. Corruption of Officers.

280. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to issue a Proclamation in this State also, similar to the one that has been recently issued in Hyderabad, for checking the corruption of Government officers?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the negative.

Expenditure of Allotment for new Roads in Muvattupuzha Taluk.

281. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to arrange for the whole amount sanctioned this year for opening new roads in the Muvattupuzha taluk being spent and the works completed before the close of the year?

* *Vide* appendix V—page 996.

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Every endeavour is being made by the Chief Engineer to spend the allotments fully.

Karkatasseri—Neduvakkad Road.

282. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to arrange for the village road from Karkatasseri landing place near Muvattupuzha to Neduvakkad being converted at once into a cart road?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The conversion of this village road into a cart road is being investigated by the Chief Engineer.

Expenditure on Irrigation.

283. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the total expenditure on irrigation during the last seven years, and the portion spent for the Kottayam Division alone?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The total expenditure incurred on irrigation during the last seven years was Rs. 16,03,264, of which a sum of Rs. 95,299 was spent in the Kottayam Division.

Conversion into Paddy Lands of a certain Tract in Muvattupuzha Taluk.

284. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that there is an area of about two thousand acres of very fertile land along the northern banks of the Periyar, included in the reserve and lying along its borders and measuring about twelve miles in length, from the junction of the Deviyar (a tributary of the Periyar) with the Periyar in Muvattupuzha taluk up to Tattakad road, and that there is adequate facility for converting this area into cultivable lands by the diversion of the Deviyar water through the necessary irrigation channels without much cost?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to depute experts to make preliminary investigations for carrying out this project?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) They are aware of the locality referred to.

(*b*) The Disafforestation Committee for the Muvattupuzha taluk will have something to say in regard to this area and Government will await the report of that committee.

Konni Pepper Farm.

285. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) What is the distance from the Main Central Road to the Konni Pepper Farm? Is the road to the farm cartable?

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